

Canada-China academic exchanges

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mitchell Sharp, announced recently that the Governments of Canada and of the People's Republic of China had agreed to an exchange of students over a two-year period. The Canadian desire to conclude such an exchange was one of the matters discussed by Mr. Sharp in the course of his visit to Peking in August 1972.

Next month ten Chinese students will come to Canada to further their knowledge of the English or French language and ten more students will join the first group in September 1974 to pursue their studies as well as to conduct research in the natural and applied sciences. Twenty Canadian students will go to the People's Republic of China shortly where, during the first year, they will study Chinese at the Peking Language Institute. Of these, ten students will be sponsored by the Canadian Government and the remainder by three Canadian universities — York, Toronto and McGill.

The Canadian Government and the Government of the People's Republic of China are also negotiating an exchange of professors. A Chinese professor of language or literature will come to Canada this autumn for a period of three to four months; in exchange, a Canadian professor will proceed to China about the same time.

Panama orders Canadian telephones

Northern Electric Company Ltd of Montreal has been awarded major contracts for more than \$2-million worth of telephone sets and cable by IRHE, the Republic of Panama utility company. This is the first large sale of telephones in that country.

Panama is in a major program of development of its telephone system and Northern Electric, through these contracts, has become one of its main suppliers. The order, put out on public tender, was chosen from ten internationally-known telecommunications manufacturing companies.

Delivery of the first sets began in August and is expected to be completed by early 1975.

W.R. Johnston, executive vice-president, Apparatus and Cable, Division

commented: "There is every reason to believe this first sale can be followed by other substantial orders. We look upon it as an initial success and view Central America as a good market for such products as CONTEMPRA phones, key sets and Centurion coin telephones."

Visit of German Foreign Minister

The Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Walter Scheel, will pay an official visit to Canada from September 27 to September 30. Continuing consultations will take place during the visit, which is in return for that paid by External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp to the Federal Republic in April 1970.

The last official visit to Canada of a German Foreign Minister, in April 1969, was that of Mr. Scheel's predecessor Mr. Willy Brandt, the present Chancellor.

In Ottawa, Mr. Scheel will hold discussions with the Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet including Mr. Sharp, who will be his host. He will also address a meeting of the Empire Club in Toronto.

Mr. Scheel, who will be accompanied by his wife, will spend the weekend in the Laurentian Mountains, near Ottawa, prior to his departure.

Canada gets another sterilization plant

A third facility for the biological sterilization of disposable medical supplies has opened in Canada.

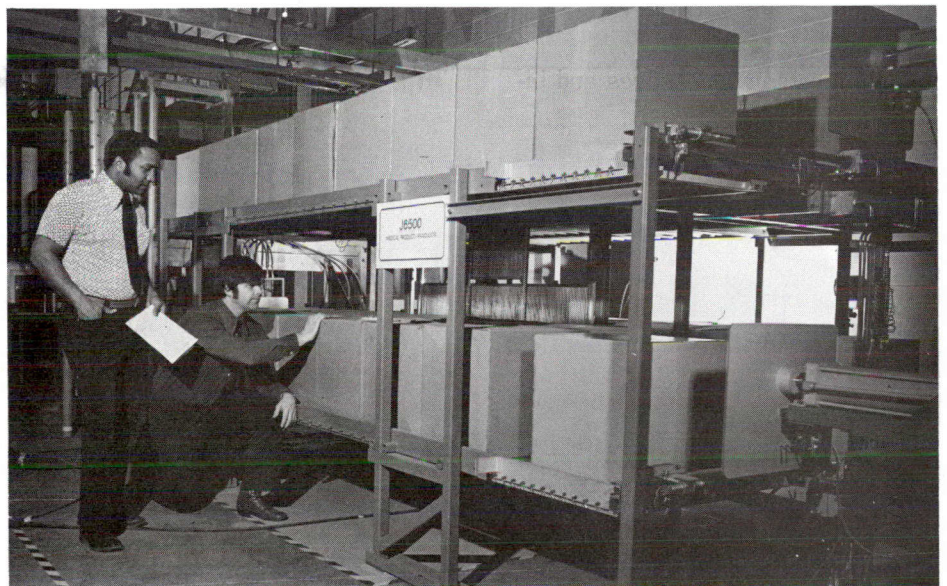
The new plant is owned and operated by Toronto Sterilized Products, Markham, Ontario. The facility, designed, built and installed by Commercial Products of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, is operating with about 250,000 curies of cobalt 60.

The use of radiation to sterilize medical supplies is growing because of its efficiency and advantages to medical hygiene and many items commonly used in hospitals, clinics and doctors' offices are sterilized by this method. They include surgical gloves, sutures, bandages and packings, needles, syringes, scalpel blades, catheters and operating-room packs.

The items are sterilized by the manufacturer, used once and discarded; the use of special wrapping and packaging techniques guarantees the doctor and patient that items remain sterile until the moment they are used.

Commercial Products has designed a range of radiation-sterilization plants that can handle all types of disposable supplies. These plants operate automatically on a 24-hour-a-day basis.

Other radiation-sterilization plants in Canada are Isomedix at St. Hilaire, near Montreal, Quebec, and at Ethicon, near Peterborough, Ontario.



A high-capacity irradiator used for biological sterilization of medical supplies undergoes final tests at AECL's Commercial Products Division, Ottawa.